

To: Dwayne Harrington, EPA-OSC

From: Beverly Lawson, TAT
Ali Lochhead

Date: October 9, 1990

Re: Assessment of Remaining Potential Hazards
Synkote Paints Site, Elmwood Park, New Jersey

Synkote Paints is an abandoned paint and solvent-based coatings manufacturing facility in Elmwood Park, New Jersey. Approximately 300 drums, containers and reactor vessels containing solvents, paint wastes, corrosives, and laboratory chemicals were abandoned at the site in 1986. In October 1989, EPA initiated a CERCLA Removal Action at the Synkote Paints site.

In October 1989, EPA contractors sampled all of the drums at the site and stabilized the laboratory chemicals via lab packing in DOT approved containers. A security system was installed at this time. Between October and June 1990, the security system was inspected regularly.

In June 1990, EPA contractors overpacked all the drums and paint cans on site. The shipment of overpacks was transported to ThermalKem, Rock Hill South Carolina, for incineration.

A number of potential hazards remain both in the building and outside on the property:

- 1) Approximately three (3) aboveground storage tanks remain at the rear of the property (southern border).
- 2) Located in front of the storage tanks are two (2) x 85 gallon drums, which contain assorted garbage and three (3) drums (2 x 55 gallon and 1 x 85 gallon), which contain a 2" thick paint residue.
- 3) One (1) large mixing vat, containing a half inch of residue, is located on the southeastern corner of the building.
- 4) A metal hopper was found adjacent to the mixing vat, along the back wall of the facility.
- 5) Situated to the west of the hopper are one (1) 55 gallon rusted drum, six (6) plastic paint residue buckets, and two (2) 35 gallon rusted drums.
- 6) Located further to the west, along the back wall of the building are three machine parts and a large metal roller.
- 7) A large metal 5'x5'x5' dumpster, as well as various other metal and plastic trash are located on the southwestern-most portion of the property.

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- 8) Numerous patches of paint residue (approximately 2-3" thick) were noted on the ground adjacent to the back wall of the building.
- 9) Located inside the building in the drum room (eastern most room) are six (6) reactor vessels.
- 10) Contamination of the soil and groundwater have been noted during previous site investigations.

For the removal action to be complete, the above mentioned potential hazards should be attended to in the appropriate manner.